

Health and Safety Guidance under COVID-19 Alert Level 2

As of Wednesday 8th September 2021, New Zealand (excluding Auckland) entered Alert Level 2. At Alert Level 2 the following Health and Safety Guidance applies at the University of Waikato.

Staff are encouraged to stay up to date with the latest [Government advice](#) and [Ministry of Education guidelines for Tertiary Organisations](#).

The health and safety of our staff, students and the public is our top priority. **If you are sick or feel unwell, stay at home**, and if you have symptoms of cold or flu call your doctor or Healthline (0800 358 5453) and get tested.

On Campus

While on campus under Alert Level 2:

- Scan in using the [NZ Covid Tracer app](#) when moving around campus.
- Maintain good hygiene practices such as handwashing with soap for 20 seconds, coughing or sneezing into your elbow and cleaning surfaces regularly.
- Bring a face covering/mask with you to campus. It is strongly recommended you wear it at all times, especially in places where you can't physically distance for example, in lecture halls, common areas, libraries, or in a confined space with other students or staff, such as in lifts.
- You must wear a face covering/mask in the following spaces:
 - all cafes/retail on campus, reception areas, the Student Hub and social learning spaces of the Tauranga campus, Gallagher Academy of Performing Arts, Student Health, the pharmacy and the Student Centre
 - when travelling via the Kaimai Shuttle and the regional buses
 - in some laboratories on campus, due to the nature of the research and/or teaching.
- Maintain social distancing of 2 metres when outside and at least 1 metre inside University buildings, where possible.
- If you visit or work at locations other than the Hamilton and Tauranga campuses follow any additional control measures that apply to that site.
- At-risk and vulnerable people should not carry out any on-site activities unless they are fully vaccinated. However, they may work on site if they wish to and it is safe for them to do so.
- Overnight stays at Te Kohinga Mārama and Te Manawaroa are not permitted at Level 2 or at any other marae or facility.

Teaching and learning

- Face-to-face classes are now limited to up to 100 people in a room with physical distancing of at least 1 metre where possible (this is a different rule to the 50 people indoors for events/businesses).
- If you have more than 100 students enrolled in a face-to-face class that you normally teach in one group, you will need to move that class fully online, but any associated smaller group classes can continue face-to-face.
- Teaching spaces that have multiple points of access will be marked with entry and exit signs to direct a one-way flow of students.
- Exit times should be staggered to avoid large groups of students congregating.
- Work-Integrated Learning including practicums, internships and placements can resume but are subject to the Level 2 protocols that apply to the workplace that the student is in (e.g. schools, businesses, community organisations).

In the community

Follow the golden rules as set out by the Government on the [Covid-19 website](#):

- Sign in with the Covid Tracer App
- [Wearing a face covering](#) when leaving home is strongly encouraged
- Maintain two-metre distancing wherever possible
- Practice good hygiene – wash hands or sanitise.

Access support

The Covid-19 Alert Levels may be distressing, please access support if required:

- [Just a Thought online module](#) to assist through Covid-19
- Free call or free text [1737](#) for access to a trained counsellor
- [Wellbeing@Waikato](#) resources
- [Employee Assistance Programme](#) (staff)